
TITLE 312 NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Emergency Rule
LSA Document #17-311(E)

DIGEST

Temporarily amends [312 IAC 9](#) to govern noncommercial hunts at specified state parks. Under [IC 14-22-6-13](#), the Director finds white-tailed deer have caused, and will continue to cause, measurable damage to the ecological balance within these properties, and the ecological balance within these properties will not be maintained unless action is taken to control their populations. Effective July 7, 2017.

SECTION 1. (a) Notwithstanding [312 IAC 9-2-11](#), [312 IAC 8-2](#), and any other provision governing hunting a wild animal within a state park, individuals qualified under this SECTION may hunt white-tailed deer on November 13 through November 14, 2017, and November 27 through November 28, 2017, at the following sites:

- (1) Cave River Valley Natural Area.
- (2) Chain O' Lakes State Park.
- (3) Charlestown State Park.
- (4) Clifty Falls State Park.
- (5) Fort Harrison State Park.
- (6) Harmonie State Park.
- (7) Lincoln State Park.
- (8) McCormick's Creek State Park.
- (9) Ouabache State Park.
- (10) Pokagon State Park.
- (11) Potato Creek State Park.
- (12) Shades State Park.
- (13) Shakamak State Park.
- (14) Spring Mill State Park.
- (15) Tippecanoe River State Park.
- (16) Trine State Recreation Area.
- (17) Versailles State Park.
- (18) Whitewater Memorial State Park.

(b) In order to apply for a license under this SECTION, an individual must be at least eighteen (18) years old by November 13, 2017, and possess one (1) of the following:

- (1) a valid resident license to take deer issued pursuant to [IC 14-22-12-1](#); or
- (2) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license issued pursuant to [IC 14-22-12-7\(a\)\(4\)](#) before its repeal; or
- (3) a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license issued pursuant to [IC 14-22-12-7\(a\)\(5\)](#), before its repeal.

(c) All eligible applicants under this SECTION will be entered into a random drawing. In order for an applicant to qualify for a license, an application must be submitted online at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/5834.htm> before August 21, 2017. The department shall begin accepting online applications in July of 2017.

(d) Applicants may apply individually, or collectively as a group of up to three (3) members. To submit their preference, an applicant shall indicate that zero (0), one (1), or two (2) additional applicants will be participating in the reduction hunt. The additional applicants must also meet the requirements in subsection (b) of this SECTION. The submission by an individual of more than one (1) application per period shall disqualify the applicant from participating in the drawing. For the purposes of this subsection, the first "period" is November 13 through 14, 2017, and the second "period" is November 27 through November 28, 2017.

(e) The drawing described in this SECTION shall be conducted on a random basis. Applicants can check the results of the drawing after September 1, 2017, online at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/5834.htm>.

(f) Each individual issued a license under this SECTION may be randomly assigned to specific

management units with designated parking assignments. Each license holder must comply with any requirements set forth in the assignment. Each license holder must check-in and check-out at a designated area upon each arrival and departure to or from the property.

(g) The form of the license under this SECTION shall be as determined by the department. Each participant in the hunt must possess evidence of the license as specified by the department at all times while participating in the reduction hunt.

(h) Shooting hours will begin thirty (30) minutes prior to sunrise, and conclude at 4:00 p.m. EST (3:00 p.m. CST).

(i) Individuals participating in a reduction hunt described in this SECTION must wear "hunter orange" apparel that meets the specifications set forth in [IC 14-22-38-7](#) at all times, including:

- (1) a hat or cap; and
- (2) a vest, coat, jacket, or coveralls.

(j) During the hunt, an individual must not take more than:

- (1) Three (3) total deer.
- (2) Included among the total deer taken, there must not be more than one (1) antlered deer.

(k) A deer taken under this SECTION does not apply to any bag limit for taking deer established by [312 IAC 9](#).

(l) All deer must be delivered to a designated check station within the state park.

(m) Notwithstanding subsections (n) and (o), an individual must not enter a state park described in this SECTION during the following periods:

- (1) 8 p.m. EST (7 p.m. CST) on Sunday, November 12 through 8 a.m. EST on Wednesday, November 15, 2017; or
- (2) 8 p.m. EST on Sunday, November 26 through 8 a.m. EST (7 a.m. CST) on Wednesday, November 29, 2017.

(n) An individual participating in the reduction hunt shall enter a state park only at a site designated by the department.

(o) In order to enter a state park, an individual must be one (1) of the following:

- (1) An individual granted a license under this SECTION.
- (2) A representative of the media.
- (3) An employee of the department.
- (4) An individual possessing credentials supplied by the department.

(p) Except for Clifty Falls State Park, Fort Harrison State Park, and Trine State Recreation Area, deer may be taken only by firearms meeting the specifications set forth at [312 IAC 9-3-3](#). At Clifty Falls State Park, Fort Harrison State Park, and Trine State Recreation Area, deer may only be taken by bows and arrows and crossbows meeting the specifications set forth at [312 IAC 9-3-3](#).

(q) Only non-penetrating tree stands are permitted at any property and ground blinds are prohibited at all firearms properties. Ground blinds as defined at [312 IAC 9-1-7.6](#) and meeting specifications set forth at [312 IAC 9-2-15](#) are permitted at archery properties (Clifty Falls State Park, Fort Harrison State Park, and Trine State Recreation Area).

SECTION 2. This document expires on January 1, 2018.

LSA Document #17-311(E)

Filed with Publisher: July 7, 2017, 12:33 p.m.

Posted: 07/12/2017 by Legislative Services Agency

An [html](#) version of this document.